

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00

FAA-00 DOTE-00 CAB-02 /092 W
----- 025380

R 041825Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1915

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL CURACAO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PARAMARIBO 061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NS

SUBJECT: SURINAM AND NETHERLANDS DRAW CLOSER ON INDEPENDENCE
TERMS

REF: PARAMARIBO 046 (NOTAL)

1. NETHERLANDS MISSION AND GOS LAST FRIDAY CONCLUDED BI-
LATERAL DISCUSSIONS PREPARATORY TO UPCOMING REALM CONFERENCE
ON SURINAM INDEPENDENCE IN ATMOSPHERE COMBINING MUTUAL WARMTH
WITH SOMEWHAT CONTRIVED TENSION. GON DELEGATION DEPARTED FOR
HOLLAND OVER WEEKEND.

2. JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED SATURDAY CONTAINED FOLLOWING
POINTS:

DEVELOPMENT

A. IN ADDITION TO SF 67 MILLION REMAINING IN SECOND FIVE-
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YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN, GON HAS ALLOCATED SF 35 MILLION FOR

PROJECTS STARTED BEFORE JAN. 1, 1976. THIS IS ASIDE FROM
SF 10 MILLION REMAINING FOR SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS.
GRAND TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION IN 1975 IS SF 112 MILLION.

B. IN DETERMINING TOTAL AMOUNT OF AID FOR PERIOD AFTER 1975,
GON WILL CONSIDER "NEED FOR AID IN ALL ASPECTS, INCLUDING
NEEDS ARISING FROM INDEPENDENCE." DEVELOPMENT TREATY WILL BE
CONCLUDED BY GOS AND GON TO INSTITUTIONALIZE COOPERATION AND
DETERMINE TOTAL AMOUNT AND PERIOD OF AID.

EEC ASSOCIATION

GON WILL SUPPORT WISHES OF GOS REGARDING FUTURE RELATIONS
WITH EEC.

BORDER QUESTIONS

A. ON INDEPENDENCE, GON WILL TRANSFER "CLEARLY DEFINED
TERRITORY" TO SURINAM WHICH WILL BE TERRITORY BOTH GOS AND
GON RECOGNIZE AS BELONGING TO SURINAM.

B. GON WILL PLACE ALL DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO BORDER MATTERS
AT DISPOSAL OF SURINAM.

C. GOS "WILL REACT VERY SOON" TO FRENCH PROPOSALS RESPECTING
SETTLEMENT OF BORDER WITH FRENCH GUIANA.

ORGANIZATION OF SURINAM FOREIGN SERVICE

DUTCH AND SURINAMER "COORDINATORS" TO BE APPOINTED TO WORK
OUT STRUCTURE OF FOREIGN SERVICE AND ADVISE RESPECTIVE GOVTS.
ON THIS. NETHERLANDS WILL ARRANGE TRAINING COURSE FOR SURINAMER
FS ASPIRANTS ON SHORT NOTICE.

MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

GON WILLING SPONSOR SURINAM MEMBERSHIP IN UN AND SUPPORT
REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANS.

SURINAM DEFENSE
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A. SURINAM PARTICIPATION IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONVERTING LOCAL
DUTCH MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT INTO SURINAM MILITARY ORGANIZATION
(SMO) TO BE INCREASED AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN NETHERLANDS
DEFENSE STAFF REGARDING THIS TO BE IMPROVED.

B. NETH. WILL COOPERATE "AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE" TOWARDS
SURINAMIZATION OF LOCAL DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT ON BOTH ENLISTED

AND OFFICER LEVELS.

C. GON WILL PROVIDE PAY COMPENSATION ALLOWANCE TO DUTCH ARMY REGULARS (PRESUMABLY ONLY SURINAMERS) WHO TRANSFER TO SMO, AND SEVERANCE PAY OR TRANSFER ALLOWANCE TO CIVILIAN PERSONNEL JOINING THE SMO.

D. GON WILL HAND OVER MILITARY INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT IN GOOD ORDER.

E. NETH. "WILL CONSIDER" DECISION OF GOS IN RESPECT TO STATUS OF MILITARY HOSPITAL AT PARAMARIBO.

3. POST-NEGOTIATION DISCUSSIONS WITH WELL INFORMED GOS SOURCES AND INTERIOR MIN DE GAAY FORTMAN, STATE SEC KOOIJMANS, AND AMB-AT-LARGE SCHELTEMA ON DUTCH DELEGATION REVEAL AS EXPECTED THAT RATHER BLAND COMMUNIQUE HIDES AT LEAST TWO SERIOUS DIFFERENCES AND MASKS SOME GOS MOTIVATIONS. IT ALSO OMITTS TWO SIGNIFICANT AGENDA ITEMS (REFTEL).

4. THE IMPORTANT INCOMPATIBILITIES REMAINING BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES CENTER NATURALLY ENOUGH ON DEVELOPMENT CASH AND LENGTH OF COMMITMENT ON DUTCH SIDE. DUTCH RECOGNIZE GOS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES MUST BE SEEN LOCALLY TO BE MAKING DEMANDS AND EXTRACTING CONCESSIONS FROM GON. IN BRIEF, GOS FAVORS 30-YEAR AID COMMITMENT WITH INITIAL FUNDING IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF SF 8.6 BILLION. DUTCH SAY THIS MUCH TOO HIGH (SF 2 BILLION MORE REALISTIC, ACCORDING KOOIJMANS) AND HOPE TO AGREE ON 10-15 YEAR TIME FRAME. QUESTION WAS LEFT FOR FINAL RESOLUTION AT REALM CONFERENCE IN MARCH OR "ODDS AND ENDS" MEETING SCHEDULED HERE FOR MAY.
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R 041825Z FEB 75
FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1916
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
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AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE
AMCONSUL CURACAO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PARAMARIBO 061

5. CONFERENCE BRIEFLY BROKE DOWN AT MID-POINT OVER GOS DEMAND HEATEDLY DEFENDED BY CHAIRMAN, VICE MINPRES VAN GENDEREN, THAT DUTCH ASSISTANCE CONSIST OF THREE SEPARATE BUDGETS COVERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID, DEFENSE ASSISTANCE, AND SUPPORT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT. DUTCH REFUSED, FEELING THAT THIS WOULD BE UNWIELDY, COMMIT THEM TO THREE NEGOTIATIONS OR FUTURE RENEGOTIATIONS INSTEAD OF ONE, AND WOULD LEND ITSELF TO PARLAYING LARGER GOS DEMANDS (E.G., RISING ARMS PRICES) THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE THE CASE. THEY PARTICULARLY PUT OFF BY GOS REQUEST THAT CURRENT ANNUAL DEFENSE BUDGET (\$F 25 MILLION) CONTINUE, INDEXED TO PRICES, ON GROUNDS "YOU WOULD PROVIDE IT IF YOU REMAINED." TWO SIDES FINALLY AGREED ON COMPROMISE LANGUAGE UNDER ITEM B OF DEVELOPMENT SECTION WITH UNDERSTANDING IT COVERS ECONOMIC, DEFENSE, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASSISTANCE.

6. A CENTRAL CONSIDERATION OF GON IN LATER ARRIVING AT TOTAL AID FIGURE IS LINKAGE WITH GOS INCREASED BAUXITE REVENUES. KOOIJMANS TOLD ME THAT GON WILL RESIST COMMITMENT OF FUNDS
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WITHOUT REFERENCE TO WINDFALL GOS WILL ENJOY THROUGH RECENTLY CONCLUDED BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS, AND WILL GAUGE CAREFULLY SURINAM'S ABSORBITIVE CAPACITIES.

7. LEFTIST ECON MIN BRUMA EMERGED AT SESSIONS AS INSTANT EXPERT ON BORDER QUESTIONS, A FIELD IN WHICH HE HAS NOT BEEN NOTABLY ACTIVE IN PAST. HE MADE JINGOISTIC ATTACK ON GUYANA'S BORDER CLAIMS AND ADVANCED GOS POSITION THAT SURINAM ALONE WILL NEGOTIATE WITH GEORGETOWN AND THE FRENCH TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING TERRITORIAL DISPUTES. FRENCH DRAFT AGREEMENT PENDING SINCE 1972 PROPOSES JOINT ECONOMIC REGIME IN DISPUTED TRACT ALONG SOUTHEASTERN SURINAM BOUNDARY. DUTCH HAD PROPOSAL TO NEGOTIATE THIS WITH FRENCH AS PART OF PACKAGE OF OTHER UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS OF NO PERTINENCE TO SURINAM, BUT GOS UNINTERESTED THIS APPROACH. GOS SOURCES TELL US SURINAM INTENDS OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH BOTH FRENCH AND GUYANESE DURING 1975; HENCE TEXT OF ITEM B UNDER BORDER QUESTIONS WHICH ALLOWS A TERRITORIAL

TRANSFER REFLECTING ANY PROGRESS OR LACK THEREOF THAT GOS MAY MANAGE DURING BALANCE OF YEAR.

8. ITEMS UNDER DEFENSE PORTION OF COMMUNIQUE RESPECTIVELY REFLECT TO A DEGRDDJC:#

A. LOCAL ANGER AT SEEMING DEMOTION OF SURINAMER CHIEF OF STAFF AND GARRISON COMMANDER, LT. COL. ELSTAK, AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY DUTCH OFFICER. ACTUALLY, THIS WAS DONE ONLY TO FREE ELSTAK TO CONCENTRATE ON HIS MORE POLITICAL DUTIES AS HEAD OF SURINAM SECTION IN DEFENSE TALKS WITH DUTCH. BUT THIS WIDELY MISUNDERSTOOD.

B. GOS CONCERN THAT SURINAMER OFFICERS AND NONCOMS SERVING WITH HIGHLY PAID AND NON-POLITICAL DUTCH ARMY WILL ELECT TO REMAIN WITH IT INSTEAD OF TAKING PAY CUT TO SERVE IN PROBABLY MORE POLITICIZED SURINAM ARMY DESPITE PROSPECTS OF EARLY PROMOTION IN NEW ORGANIZATION.

C. PART OF ITEM B IN THAT DUTCH SURINAMER PERSONNEL WILL BE ENCOURAGED THROUGH COMPENSATION SCHEME OR "GOLDEN HANDSHAKE" TO SWITCH SERVICES.

D. NO REAL PROBLEM SINCE GON SPENDING CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT
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TO RENOVATE BARRACKS AND EQUIPMENT REPORTEDLY IN GENERALLY GOOD CONDITION.

E. GOS HAS FELT THAT DUTCH MILITARY HOSPITAL AN UNNECESSARY LUXURY FOR LOCAL FORCES WHICH CAN BE PUT TO CIVILIAN USES.

9. GOS MOST EMPHATICALLY WISHES TO ENTER UN AND REMAIN AS ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF EEC. SURINAM'S MEMBERSHIP IN LATTER VIRTUALLY GUARANTEED.

10. AGENDA ITEMS OMITTED FROM PREPARATORY TALKS WERE TWO PARTICULARLY STICK ONES, LEFT TO BE RESOLVED AT THE TRIPARTITE HAGUE CONFERENCE: EMIGRATION, REPATRIATION AND CITIZENSHIP, AND FUTURE CIVIL AVIATION RELATIONS. THE FORMER WAS NOT RAISED AND THE LATTER IS SHORT-HAND FOR KLM'S TROUBLED AND CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH SLM, THE LOCAL FLAG CARRIER. HERING, MINPRES ARRON'S POLITICAL ASSISTANT, TOLD ME THAT DESPITE ECONMIN BRUMA'S DECLARATION THAT KLM CONNECTION WOULD BE SEVERED AFTER INDEPENDENCE (LOCAL KLM REP BELIEVES SO), NO GOS DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN AND THAT ARRANGEMENT MAY BE WORKED OUT. BUT MEMBER DUTCH DEL. REMARKED THAT GON "DOESN'T CARE" IF KLM RELATIONSHIP DROPPED.

11. COMMENT: ATMOSPHERICS OF CONFERENCE MIXED. DUTCH DEL-

EGATION IMPRESSED WITH SKILL OF SURINAMER NEGOTIATORS, THEIR ABILITY TO BLOW HOT AND COLD BY TURNS, TURN ON A DIME FROM THREAT TO CHARM. EVEN SCHELTEMA STRUCK BY THIS, ALTHOUGH AS OLD-TIMER AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA HE LESS TAKEN IN BY THEATRICALS THAN MINISTERS PRONK AND DE GAAY FORTMAN SEEMED TO BE. IF ROLE-PLAYING BY LOCAL POLITICIANS DISCOUNTED, CONFERENCE CAN BE SAID TO HAVE GONE WELL AND, ON BALANCE, AMICABLY.

12. SEEMS CLEAR THAT GOS, BRUMA IN PARTICULAR, PROBABLY SEE BORDER ISSUE WITH GUYANA -MUCH LESS SO WITH FRENCH - AS AN ATTRACTIVE POLITICAL VEHICLE FOR DISTRACTING ATTENTION FROM POSSIBLE INTERNAL PROBLEMS, HEIGHTENING NATIONALISTIC FEELING, AND GENERAL ENHANCEMENT OF IMAGE AS FOUNDING FATHERS. ALTHOUGH DUTCH READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH FRENCH, THEY ARE UNDOUBTEDLY RELIEVED TO SEE REVERSAL OF EARLIER POSITION THAT GON SOLVE SURINAM BORDER PROBLEMS PRIOR HANDOVER.
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QEM THE SURINAMERS KNOW DUTCH VERY WELL, MUCH AS FILIPINOS KNOW AMERICANS. THEY MAY BE COUNTED UPON TO CONSTANTLY SOUND MORAL OBLIGATION THEME IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS, KNOWING PRESENT GON MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO THIS THAN ANY OTHER.
FLANEGIN

NOTE BY OCT: PARAMARIBO 61/2 #AS RECEIVED.

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